

Ami Marshall SB 36  
142 Scott Ave.  
Watertown, CT 06795

I would to thank the members of the PHC for consideration of the Governor's bill #36. I am in strong support of this bill to remove the written collaborative agreement with a MD for APRN practice.

I have been an APRN for approximately 10 years and have been serving Litchfield County throughout my APRN career. For the past 7 years, I have been employed as a primary care provider in a Community Health Center, I have seen firsthand the effects of the Affordable Care Act and the increasing demand for healthcare among the newly insured. There is a desperate need for new primary care providers and Nurse Practitioners are ideal providers to meet this demand. I have had the privilege to work at the Community Health and Wellness Center of Greater Torrington which is a predominantly Nurse Practitioner run facility. Our CEO is an APRN and we presently employ 9 Nurse Practitioners. We have 2 physicians in our practice, one of whom was recently hired. These physicians are our colleagues and there is a mutual respect among all providers in this facility for the unique care each individual provides. Each provider in our practice consults and collaborates with each other when there is a medical issue of concern for one's patient. Collaboration is essentially consultation and this is what every ethical practitioner engages in; whether it be a nurse, physician, or physical therapist. Bill #36 does not impact any ethical standards of practice relating to collaboration and consultation. Nurse Practitioners already have full practice authority; this bill will allow APRNs to remain in practices and allow them to open practices which is necessary to meet the increasing demands of the newly insured. The Collaborative Practice Agreement has nothing to do with how Nurse Practitioners take care of patients. Patients need to have access to quality healthcare providers that are able to practice to their full education and training. By removing the need for a Collaborative Practice Agreement after 3 years of practice, this will allow APRNs to effectively provide this care.

Thank you,  
Ami Marshall APRN